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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Alexandre TRETIAKOV et al.

Serial No. : Not yet known (U.S. National Stage of  
PCT/EP99/08178 filed October 28, 1999)

For : ULTRATHIN-WALLED MULTIWELL PLATE  
FOR HEAT BLOCK THERMOCYCLING

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Preliminary to examination, please amend this application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

~~Cancel claim 6.~~

~~Amend claim 1 as follows:~~

A 1  
1. (Amended) Ultrathin-walled multiwell plate for heat block  
thermocycling of samples comprising an array of small-volume wells of identical  
height with the similarly shaped sample wells formed in the top surface of the heat  
block of the thermocycler, wherein the walls of the wells have an average thickness  
of 20-40 microns.

The Appendix hereto shows the changes in claim 1.